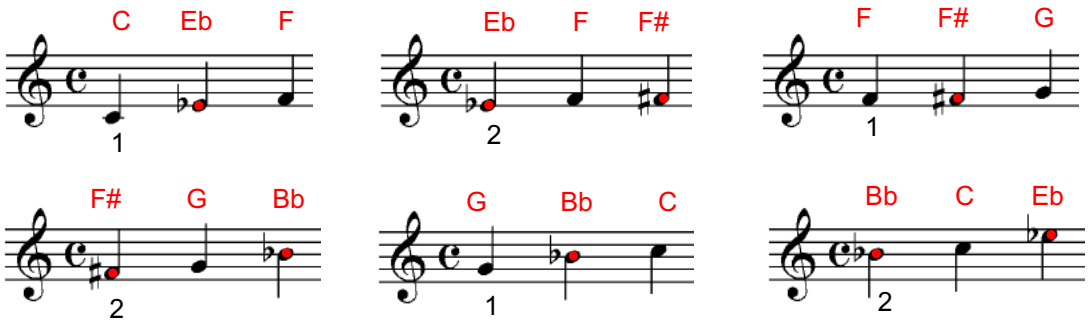
Ceasy BLUES RIFFS

Practice these riffs and patterns and introduce them
gradually into your improvisations

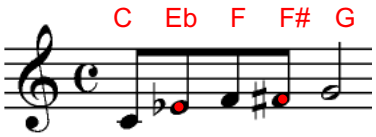
If you see this symbol (♮) it means the note is 'natural' again (ie NOT flat or sharp)

These three note patterns are taken from the BLUES SCALE - experiment with them

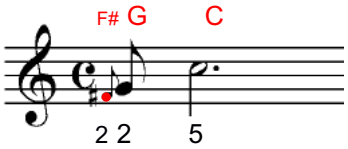
1



This is a five finger position for the scale

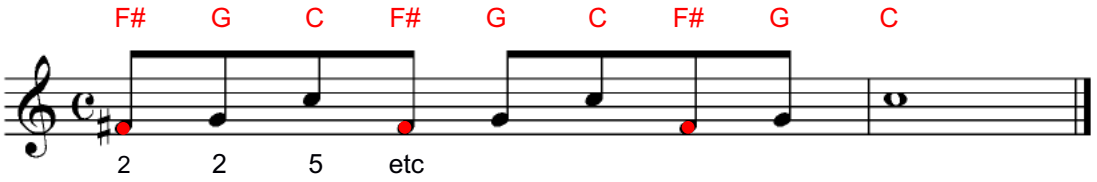
2

This is a 'SLIDE' - very often you slide onto the white key from the flat of the key

3

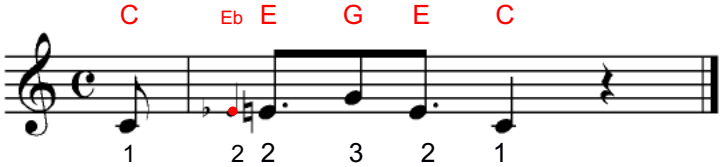
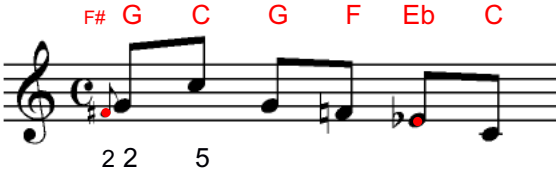


This sounds similar but stretches the sound out. Notice that the sharp # in front of the first F makes all the F notes in that bar sharp.

4



I call this the 'Bonnie & Clyde' Riff. It always reminds me of the song.

5

6

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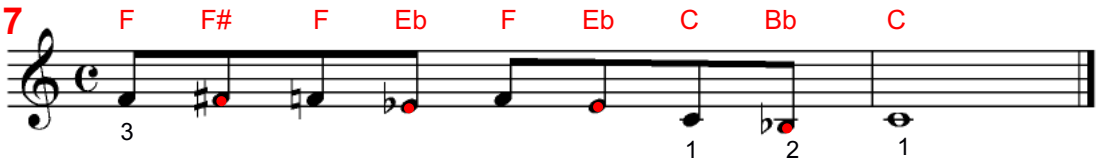
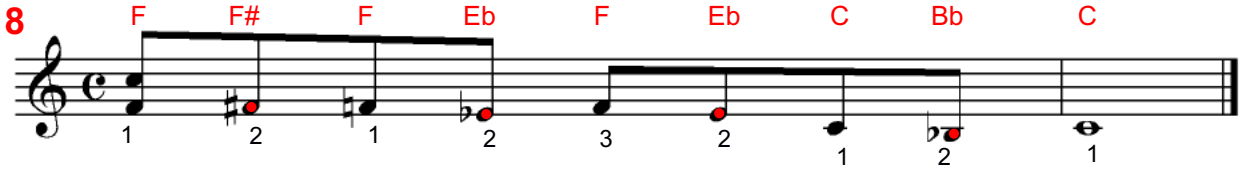
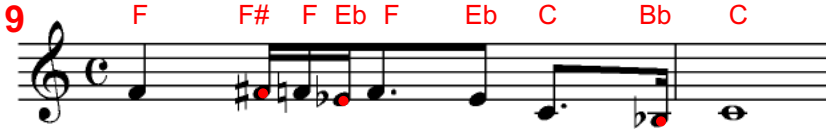
The following 3 patterns are nearly the same. The second riff has just got an added C note on TOP of the first note. This is a common blues trick. In the third riff the 2nd to 5th notes are played very quickly which is a riff in itself. LISTEN to the recording!

7

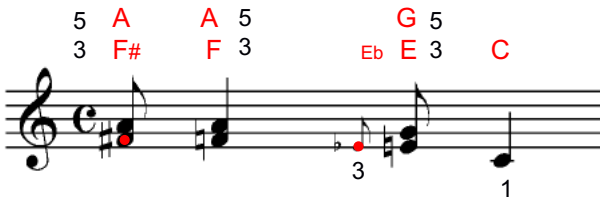


8

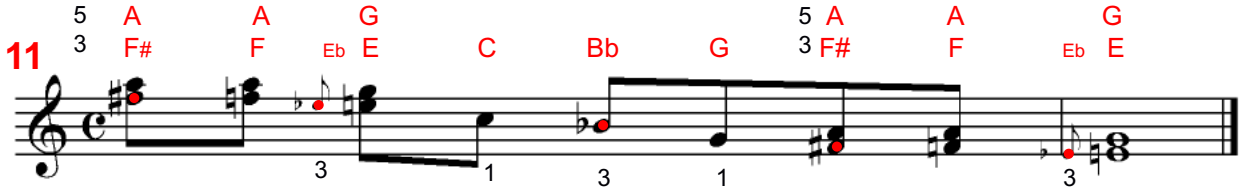


9

Blues riffs very often use ‘double’ notes - this gives an extra ‘ring’ and you often SLIDE on to the notes from a flat note.

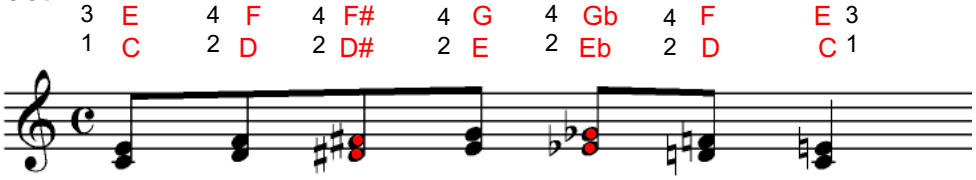
10



11



You will have heard the following riff a million times. Try transposing it to F and G for better effect.

12

This is the C BLUES SCALE over two octaves up and down.
The trick is getting the fingering right. Sounds great though doesn’t it?

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